

092

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D***** COPY

OP IMMED
DE WTE #7007 3372336
O 032303Z DEC 75
FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOSCO 64//

TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

UNCLAS WH52394

TOSCO 64

TOSCO 64

REUTER 700

SCHLESINGER
WASHINGTON, DEC 3, REUTER - FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES
SCHLESINGER SAID TODAY HE DOES NOT BELIEVE SECRETARY OF STATE
HENRY KISSINGER IS WITHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PRESIDENT FORD
ON ALLEGED SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS AGREEMENT.

HE TOLD THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE THAT THERE HAD
BEEN SOME DELAY IN GETTING THE INFORMATION TO THE PRESIDENT
BUT SAID: "I DON'T THINK A DELAY CAN BE SYNONYMOUS WITH
CONCEALMENT.

RETIRED ADMIRAL ELMO ZUMWALT, FORMER CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS,
YESTERDAY TOLD CONGRESS THAT DR. KISSINGER HAD BEEN LESS THAN
CANDID WITH THE PRESIDENT ON ALLEGED SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF THE
STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS (SALT) AGREEMENT.

THE NAVY'S FORMER TOP OFFICER SAID HE BELIEVED THE PRESIDENT
WAS NOT AWARE OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH INFORMATION IS BEING
WITHHELD FROM HIM.

BUT DR. SCHLESINGER TOLD THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE:
"I WOULD BE INCLINED, UNTIL I SEE EVIDENCE, TO DISAGREE WITH
THAT."

WHEN ASKED IF HE WAS CONFIDENT THE PRESIDENT HAD RECEIVED THE
NECESSARY INFORMATION ON THE ALLEGED SOVIET VIOLATIONS, HE
REPLIED: "YES SIR."

*****WHHR COMMENT*****

MC FARLANE, RODMAN, SDO, SECLE

PBN037912

PAGE 01

TOR:337/23:30Z

DTG:002305Z DEC 75

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D***** COPY

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D***** COPY

BUT THE FORMER DEFENCE SECRETARY, FIRED BY PRESIDENT FORD LAST MONTH, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SENSITIVE INFORMATION ON ALLEGED SALT VIOLATIONS HAD BEEN CLOSELY HELD BY A FEW ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND THAT, THEREFORE, THERE WAS A DELAY IN SENDING FORWARD SOME REPORTS.

HE DECLINED COMMENT WHEN QUESTIONED AFTER THE COMMITTEE HEARING ON WHETHER HE HAD TOLD ADMIRAL ZUMWALT THAT HE HAD BEEN ORDERED BY DR. KISSINGER IN MID-1974 NOT TO SEND PENTAGON REPORTS ON ALLEGED SALT VIOLATIONS TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

ADMIRAL ZUMWALT YESTERDAY SAID DR. SCHLESINGER HAD TOLD HIM HE HAD BEEN GIVEN SUCH AN ORDER.

DURING HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE DR. SCHLESINGER ALSO MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- THE PRESENT TREND IN THE SALT TALKS DOES NOT GIVE MUCH CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM
- THE U.S. PULLOUT FROM SOUTH VIETNAM -- "THE GREATEST DEBACLE IN AMERICAN HISTORY" -- IS GOOD REASON FOR AMERICAN TROOPS TO REMAIN IN SOUTH KOREA AND PROVIDE STABILITY IN ASIA
- THE GROWTH IN SOVIET ARMED FORCES IN THE PAST FEW YEARS HAS BEEN OFFSET ONLY BY THE U.S. "QUASI-ALLIANCE WITH CHINA" AND THE INCREASED CAPABILITY OF THE WEST GERMAN ARMED FORCES
- THERE HAS BEEN A RECENT HARDENING, A VARIATION IN TACTICS, OF SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY.

HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN AN EBB AND FLOW IN SOVIET TACTICS SINCE THE TIME OF LENIN BUT FEW CHANGES IN THE FUNDAMENTAL POLICY TO SEDUCE THE WEST.

REUTER 1617

0479

PSN1037912 PAGE 02 OF 02 TOR1337/23136Z DTG1002503Z DEC 75

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D***** COPY